

CLAIMS

1. Device for closing a container (3; 103; 203) provided with a neck (2; 102; 202), this device comprising:
 - a first portion intended to form a closure element (4; 104),
 - 5 - a second, annular portion (5; 105), intended to be maintained around the neck (2; 102), and
 - a third portion which forms a tamper-evident tab (6; 106) linking the first (4; 104) to the second (5; 105) portion, which is connected to these first and second portions (4, 5; 104, 105) by frangible means (8, 9) and which is intended
 - 10 to be removed upon first use in order to release the closure element (4; 104), this device being characterized in that it defines means (14; 114) for storing (F) the tamper-evident tab (6; 106), once this tamper-evident tab has been separated from the first and second portions (4, 5; 104, 105).
2. Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the second portion
- 15 comprises a wall forming an annular skirt (5; 105), the storage means comprising a passage (14; 114) made through the wall of said skirt (5; 105) and adapted to allow the insertion of the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) in an interior storage space (18; 118; 128) that the skirt (5; 105) and the neck (2; 102) are intended to define between each other.
- 20 3. Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that said passage is formed by a hole (14).

4. Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that, opposite the closure element (104), the skirt (05) terminates in a free edge (112) which defines a notch (114) forming said passage.

5. Device according to any one of Claims 2 to 4, characterized in that, on each side of the tamper-evident tab (6; 106), said frangible means present the form of a continuous line of lesser mechanical resistance (8, 9).

6. Device according to any one of the preceding Claims, characterized in that a hinge (10) links the closure element (4; 104) to the second portion (5; 105), said frangible means comprising at least one line of lesser mechanical resistance (9), which extends between the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) and the second portion (5; 105), and, diametrically opposite the hinge (10), defines the edge (13) of a notch (20) intended to be defined by said second portion (5; 105) and to uncover a part of the neck (2; 102, 202) after the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) has been removed.

7. Container provided with a neck (2; 102; 202), characterized in that it comprises a closure device (1; 101) according to any one of the preceding Claims, mounted on the neck (2; 102; 202).

8. Container according to Claim 7, characterized in that the closure device (1; 101) is in accordance with any one of Claims 2 to 5, the neck (2; 102; 202) and said skirt (5; 105) defining therebetween an interior storage space (18; 118; 218) to which said passage (14; 114) provides access and in which the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) may be inserted.

9. Container according to Claim 8, characterized in that at least one of the elements of the group comprising the

neck (2; 102; 202) and said skirt (5; 105) of the closure device (1; 101), defines at least one guide (16; 21, 115; 202) for confining the tamper-evident tab (6; 106) in the interior storage space (18; 118; 218).

10. Container according to Claim 9, characterized in that the confinement
5 guide is an annular projection (16; 21, 115; 222) laterally defining the interior storage space (18; 118; 218).

11. Container according to any one of Claims 7 to 10, characterized in that the
closure device (1, 101) is in accordance with Claim 6, and in that, at the level of
the notch (20), the neck (2; 102; 202) projects more than elsewhere from said
10 second portion (5; 105).